

HONORING INSPIRING WOMEN



Awards Reception

One Civic Plaza, NW
10th Floor, Conference Room B
Albuquerque, NM 87102



Sponsored by:
Bernalillo County Commissioner
Teresa L. Córdova, Ph.D.

May 13, 2008





ROSE BARRERAS

Rose was born in Los Lunas and reared in Los Lunas and Isleta Pueblo, Rose moved to Albuquerque in 1947. She worked for more than 20 years as an economic development planner at Isleta and Acoma Pueblos during the 1960s, 70s, and 80s. She also worked for the U.S. Postal Service and the Veteran's Administration. Through her vast political contacts, she was even invited to President Richard Nixon's inauguration in 1969. Rose and her husband, Candelario, owned and operated Kandy's Supermarket on 4th street from 1947 to 1970 and the Village Laundromat in Los Lunas from 1978 to 1986. She has served as a lector at San Felipe Church for almost 40 years. Next summer, she and Candelario will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary. The couple has one daughter, three grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.



JENNIE BARBOA DAY

Jennie was born in the South Valley and has spent much of her life there. She was married to Melecio Sedillo and they had four children. He passed away when Jennie was 27 and she raised her children working as a receptionist, retail clerk but also was a 4H leader and PTA member.

Eventually, she managed many dress shops. In 1962 she married Harrell Day and they moved to Hawaii. When they returned, they became very involved in the Democratic party and she was appointed to the NM State Fair Commission by Governor Toney Anaya. She now enjoys her children and grandchildren.



CONNIE FERNANDEZ

Connie, a lifelong Albuquerquean, was a dedicated, stay at home mom who raised six children and cared for her father, Joaquin Jaramillo, for years after her mother died. She was married to Joe Fernandez, a well known community activist, school teacher and principal at School on Wheels. While Joe worked as a math teacher at School on Wheels, the couple opened their home to one of his students for a year; a teenage Cuban refugee. Connie was an heir to the Atrisco Land Grant, a longtime PTA member, and sang for 30 years in St. Anne's Church choir. She has 16 grandchildren and at least 26 great-grandchildren.



MILLIE GARCIA

One of the first women to wear a Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department uniform, she started in 1965 as a radio dispatcher doing mostly office work. She worked for several different sheriffs through her 20 years of service. She loved her work and eventually became a transport officer, taking inmates to the state penitentiary and Springer. She and her husband Rosendo Garcia have eight children, two sons and six daughters, eleven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She and her husband have been married for 61 years and she is 89 years old.

PRISCILLA GONZALES

A lifelong South Valley resident, she began her career as an outreach advisor for the Economic Opportunity Board in 1968. She began working with Dr. Brown and his wife to get the funding together for a clinic in the South Valley that included a meeting with more than 200 individuals to gather information about their medical needs. The South Valley Health Clinic began operating in 1971 and she has been the center manager since its inception. She has four children, two sons who work for BCSO and two daughters, one works for the base and the other for the federal government.



MARY "CORTINA" NAJERA

Mary is a lifelong South Valley resident except for the time she spent in Washington, D.C. as a secretary in the Offices of Emergency Management and Defense Transportation. She also worked for three days as a switchboard operator at the under then President Franklin Roosevelt. After returning to Albuquerque in 1946, she and her husband, Joseph "Pepe" (now deceased), volunteered countless hours campaigning for democratic candidates in Bernalillo County and were able to help many individuals get elected to public office including presidents, governors, senators and others. She also served on Governor King's board of directors to the state Agency on Aging. Mary has two daughters, four grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.